

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 982

By Rose

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Colonel Alfred J. "Jason" Fleming (retired).

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly take great pleasure in paying tribute to those exemplary citizens who have devoted their careers and themselves to service in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, one such heroic citizen is Colonel Alfred J. "Jason" Fleming (retired), who rendered meritorious service to this nation as Commander of the 117th Regiment (Regional Training Institute) of the Tennessee Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, prior to this assignment, Colonel Fleming was the Deputy Chief of Staff, Logistics (G4) for Tennessee; he held staff and command positions as a logistics, field artillery, and infantry officer during his tenure with the Tennessee Army National Guard; and

WHEREAS, Colonel Jason Fleming's illustrious military career began in August 1989, when he enlisted as an Infantryman in the Tennessee Army National Guard; he was a Distinguished Honor Graduate from Infantry One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Georgia, in 1990; and

WHEREAS, he received his commission as Second Lieutenant from the Tennessee Military Academy (TMA) in 1991 and graduated as a member of the TMA Class 34, receiving the Adjutant General's Trophy for highest academic standing; and

WHEREAS, a standout among his peers, Colonel Jason Fleming quickly rose through the ranks, earning promotion to 1st Lieutenant (1994), Captain (1998), Major (2005), and Lieutenant Colonel (2013) before attaining his final rank of Colonel (2017); and

WHEREAS, in addition to his final assignment as Commander of the 117th Regiment, his command assignments included Battery Commander of Battery B, 2-115th Field Artillery

Battalion (1998) and the Headquarters Battery 196th Field Artillery Brigade (2003), and Battalion Commander of the 1-181st Field Artillery Battalion (2013); and

WHEREAS, in July 2005, he was deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom with the 196th Field Artillery Brigade, serving as a member of an Embedded Training Team that trained a Combat Service Support Battalion of the Afghan National Army in the Zabul Province; and

WHEREAS, often duly honored, Colonel Fleming has received the federal honors of Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Achievement Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Combat Action Badge, and the Field Artillery Honorable Order of Saint Barbara; and

WHEREAS, his State honors include the Tennessee National Guard Distinguished Service Medal, Tennessee National Guard Commendation Ribbon with Oak Leaf Cluster, Tennessee National Guard War Service Ribbon, Tennessee National Guard Service Ribbon with Bronze Service Star and Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Tennessee National Guard Volunteer Ribbon; and

WHEREAS, a native of Covington, Colonel Jason Fleming holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Natural Resources Management from the University of Tennessee at Martin and a Master of Science degree in Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his studies at the U.S. Army War College, he has an extensive military education that includes Command and General Staff College, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, Ordnance Officer Transition Course, Field Artillery Officer Advance Course, Infantry Officer Basic Course, Support Operations Course, and Company Level Commanders Course; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many accomplishments, Colonel Fleming has enjoyed the love and support of his wife, the former Sheila Renee Harvell; the Flemings are the proud parents of a son, Garrison, and are longtime members of First Baptist Church Covington, where Colonel Fleming has served as a deacon and a Sunday School teacher, in addition to his many years of service with the Youth Ministry; and

WHEREAS, it is most fitting that Colonel Fleming should be specially recognized for his service as a distinguished leader of the greatest dedication and ability; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commend Colonel Alfred J. "Jason" Fleming (retired) for his exemplary service with the Tennessee Army National Guard, thank him for his many years of devoted service to our State and nation, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.